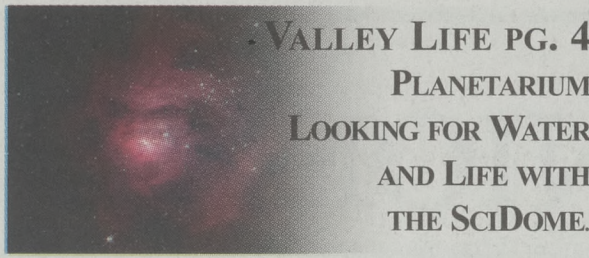




OPINION PG. 2
9/11 VS. KATRINA
 WE MUST STOP PLAYING
 THE BLAME GAME AND
 START RE-BUILDING
 OUR CITIES.



VALLEY LIFE PG. 4
PLANETARIUM
LOOKING FOR WATER
AND LIFE WITH
THE SCIDOME.



SPORTS PG. 4
FOOTBALL
 VALLEY FOOTBALL LOSES
 HOME OPENER ON NEW
 SPRINT TURF.



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VALLEY STAR

THE INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF LOS ANGELES VALLEY COLLEGE

VOLUME 65, ISSUE NO. 1

SEPTEMBER 13, 2006

IT'S YOUR NEWSPAPER

LACCD Adopts New Student ID System

BY WILL REYES
 EDITOR IN CHIEF

New picture ID cards are now being issued to all Valley College students after the Los Angeles Community College District changed to a new identification system that doesn't include students' social security numbers.

In accordance with state and federal legislation that protects a student's privacy, colleges that use social security numbers for identification purposes are required to issue a disclosure statement on how they are used or provide students with a new randomly selected number.

With identity theft cases costing U.S. consumers and businesses more than \$50 billion annually, the change was a welcome one for many Valley students.

"I think it's better that they aren't using social security numbers anymore," said biology major Jessica Manning. "Now if you lose your ID people won't be able to have your social security numbers."

California is among 10 states that protect the constitutional right to privacy with The Privacy Act of 1974. Social Security numbers, which were first issued in 1936, were initially going to be used only for social security programs, but have since been used for college ID cards, employee infor-

FAIR WAGES



STEP UP! - Los Angeles County employees protested low wages Tuesday outside the Hall of Administration in Downtown Los Angeles, chanting "Ten percent is not enough!" The Services Employees International Union Local 660 members demanded wage increases.

DANIEL KANE / VALLEY STAR

Students Find Help on Campus

BY JESSICA SHAFFER
 STAFF WRITER

Valley College students can take advantage of many services available on campus. Those services include health care, counseling and assistance with transferring and career planning.

Free medical care is available at the Student Health Center, located in the North Gym. The center offers physical exams, blood pressure screenings, vision tests, breast exams, STD and HIV screenings, and lab work at a reduced cost.

"We'd just like to get the word out because most of the students don't even know we're here," said Sonia Nodal, a physician's assistant at the Health Center. "The main thing is [students] don't realize they pay

see 'Services' page 2

mation and more.

Starting with the fall semester, LACCD students' old ID cards will no longer be valid and they must get new ones. Valley students can visit the Campus Center, where new pictures are being taken each day for free until September 15 in room 104, which has seen a large turnout.

"We have issued about 7,000 IDs so far," said Florentino Manzano,

Valley's dean of enrollment management. "We're hoping the rest of the students will come out this week to get their new IDs."

With 4 cameras and a staff available for students throughout the day in the Campus Center, Manzano said its best for students to take advantage of the current free pictures before its moved back to the Admissions building, which only has 1 camera and staff member.

The process is easy, students must show temporary paper ID cards or give their new ID number to take the picture, and then wait about 30 seconds for the ID to print out. The new design has also impressed some Valley students.

"It's a better ID," said fashion major Maggie Sellers. "It's much more modern and gives the student a feeling of identification to the school."

The new IDs are free for all students the first time, and students who lose or want to take another picture must pay a \$10 replacement fee.

Pictures will be taken in Campus Center 104 until Sept. 15. The hours are Monday through Thursday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Financial Aid Services Still Available

■ Multiple programs offer aid to students, regardless of unit load or grades.

BY KRISTEN BECKER
 STAFF WRITER

It is not too late to apply for financial aid. Students can apply for programs such as the Board of Governors Fee Waiver Program, Cal Grants, Federal Pell Grants and Federal Direct Loans. Valley College also offers short-term loans to help students pay for books.

"Students are struggling, but they may not have to," said Barbara Ralston, Associate Dean of Financial Aid.

Although the priority date to submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid was March 2, it is still possible to receive aid.

Ralston advises students fill out financial aid applications online. The online FAFSA application notifies the applicant if there are any problems with the information on the application. Students may also know if they are eligible within a week; using the paper form, students have

to wait up to six weeks. The Financial Aid office has a computer lab where students can fill out online aid applications and office staff is available to help students complete the form.

The Board of Governors Fee Waiver Program waives the enrollment fees of students who qualify. The Financial Aid office can tell a student when they complete the application if they are eligible for this program.

Both subsidized and unsubsidized Federal Direct Loans, which must be paid back when the student finishes school, are available. The difference between the two is that with subsidized loans interest does not accrue while the student is in school. Because the loans are available to Valley students in limited amounts, those who are interested should apply as soon as possible.

Students who are interested in applying for financial aid for next year may fill out a FAFSA before March 2, 2007 and submit documents by May 1 to be

considered for all the federal and state programs.

To receive aid from federal programs, students must be either a U.S. citizen or an eligible non-citizen. State aid, such as Cal Grants, requires recipients to be residents of California.

"Students don't need to be full-time students and they do not need to have straight A's," said Ralston.

Valley offers a short-term book loan that gives students up to \$150, which is used to buy books at the LAVC Bookstore.

The money for the loans is donated by faculty, staff and students and the deadline to repay the loan is December 1.

Students must be enrolled in at least 6 units to qualify. Applications are available in the Student Services office. Students must apply by the second week of the semester, but because funds are limited, Rosemary Smith, the Administrative Secretary of Student Services advises, "The earlier you apply, the better."



DANIEL KANE / VALLEY STAR

SAY CHEESE - Sommer Fehmel, a temp worker for the ID card company C.I. Solution, takes Valley College students pictures and puts an ID in their hands in less than a minute.

Valley Tutors Available in Various Disciplines

BY ANA KACZMAREK
 NEWS EDITOR

Whether the whole class or just one concept causes confusion, Valley College has a myriad of tutoring options for students. The programs cover most subjects offered on campus and are available daily through walk-ins or appointments.

One of the most diverse labs is the Learning Center, south of the Library. Focusing on basic skills and subjects not offered by other labs, it offers help in Chemistry, Physics, Statistics and Economics. Individual tutoring in other subjects and tutoring for ESL and DSPS students is also available.

"Our program is not huge due to lack of funds, but we try to take everyone who comes

in," said Tutoring and Staffing Coordinator Kristie Humphries-McClure of the center's limits. She also encouraged students to sign up early for appointments.

One aspect Learning Center Director Phyllis Yasuda emphasized was the restricted capacity of the tutors, explaining, "When you're in a lab, you have to realize that the tutor is not a master educator in the discipline." Center Labs use a Q-and-A format with a tutor addressing specific needs as they arise.

The Supplemental Instruction office is also located in the Learning Center and is an innovative program that offers scheduled group tutoring for classes that have historically high failure rates. SI Leaders,

see 'Tutoring' page 2

Students Explore Options Beyond the Bookstore

BY KHARA HUBERMAN
 STAFF WRITER

Although the Valley College bookstore seems to be working out the bugs of its Website, many students seem to be scurrying for other places to buy books online or just waiting in line on campus.

Out of thousands of books purchased each semester by Valley students, only 300-400 books have been bought through the campus bookstore's Website. Manager Claudette Burns said part of the problem is the bookstore's Web page hasn't been updated recently, but students don't seem to be rushing online because it might cost more money.

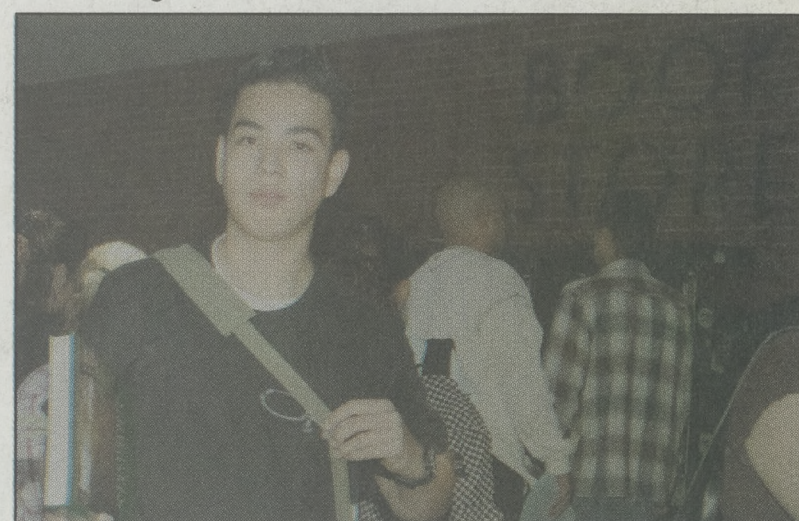
"I used the bookstore online because I didn't have to stand in long lines or take time off from work just to buy one or two

books," said Javier Espinoza, a former Valley student. "I just wish I could have saved money, too."

Many students stand in line at the campus bookstore to buy their books, while others who are only concerned with saving time choose to use the bookstore's online service. Students also save money by purchasing from online discount sites such as Amazon.com. Amazon also offers a feature to purchase books from a third party, which can save students additional money.

"I prefer Amazon.com over Buy.com and Valley College's bookstore," said music major Mandi Frei. "I saved about \$20 on my Essentials of Music Theory textbook."

The Associated Student Union also has its Book Exchange program, with boards



IMA KURODA / VALLEY STAR

BOOK BUYING FRENZY - Valley student Mario Marasco recently purchased his "Intermediate Algebra" book from the campus book store, where it is sold for \$90 used, as opposed to Amazon.com, which sells the same used book for \$74.99.

in Monarch Square from Aug. 29 to Sept. 8, and now inside the Campus Center until the end of the semester. The program

saved many students an average of \$30 to \$40 per textbook. ASU President Narine Jugharyan used

see 'Books' page 2

AN OPINION

Earthlings Mourn Pluto's Expulsion From Textbooks

By MARTIN RUIZ
STAFF WRITER

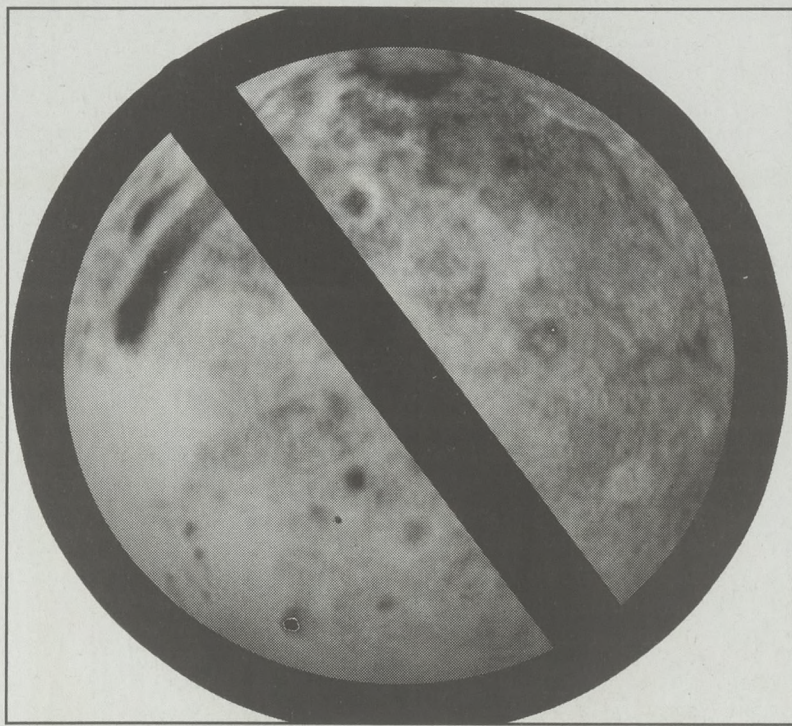
Pluto, not the Disney character but once our beloved ninth planet, has been evicted from our solar system. He is now officially an orphan.

It seems that Pluto no longer meets the definition of a planet, and was downgraded to "dwarf planet" status by the International Astronomical Union on August 24, 2006. Pluto has now been assigned the serial number 134340 by the Minor Planet Center, an arm of the IAU.

Astronomers contend that if we were to keep Pluto as part of our family, we'd have to admit all sorts of illegal planetoids.

Pluto had a good run. A mere 76 years old, he was still quite young, and was the baby of the family: only 1,600 miles in diameter, as opposed to 7,926 for earth. But with an orbit of 248 years, he was a distant relative.

At first, I was saddened by the news. How do you just abandon a member of the family? Maybe we should adopt him.



DANIEL KANE / VALLEY STAR ILLUSTRATION
SIZE MATTERS - A recent decision by the International Astronomical Union demoted Pluto, formerly the solar system's ninth and most distant planet, to a dwarf planet.

We could mobilize a massive campaign: SAVE PLUTO! We could create T-shirts, posters and protest in front of the White House, demanding that Bush grant legal status back to Pluto.

But upon further reflection, I realized it's futile to fight the powers that be. We should just appreciate the memories.

Farewell, Pluto. We'll miss you.

Tell us what's on your mind!

Send letters to the editor to thevalleystar@yahoo.com

AN OPINION

9/11 vs. Katrina: Incomparable

By MARTIN RUIZ
STAFF WRITER

Five years after 9/11, New York City is still a "hole in the ground," according to New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin.

One year after Hurricane Katrina, New Orleans is still a disaster area.

So which was the bigger disaster: 9/11 or Katrina? Why? And who is to blame?

These are ridiculous questions, but this is the circus atmosphere of politics today. 9/11 has become a noun, and even a national "holiday" (Patriot Day).

Let's not forget that 9/11 killed 2,793 Americans and Katrina killed approximately 1,836. These are not mere statistics, but actual people's lives.

Katrina was a horrific act of nature; while 9/11 was sparked by terrorists. Yet there are conspiracy theorists who claim the Bush administration perpetuated both.

Bush's critics believe he didn't do enough to prevent 9/11; and some, including filmmaker Spike Lee, think there was a plot to destroy the levees because as Kanye West said, "Bush doesn't care about black people."

To hear them speak, you'd think Bush was a member of

Al-Qaeda and had a weather machine to kill poor black people.

Let's look at the facts: Bush was in office eight months prior to 9/11. Clinton had been in office for eight years, during which time Al-Qaeda plotted to take down the twin towers. Their first attack was in 1993, during Clinton's administration.

I'm not blaming Clinton: I'm pointing out the fact that terrorists have always hated America, even before Bush. But people are always looking for someone to blame.

Nagin started pointing the finger immediately after Katrina. Should the federal government have reacted faster to Hurricane Katrina? Yes!

But when does Nagin take responsibility for what he should have done? It starts with the local government. He seems to be in front of the camera blaming others when he should be behind the scenes re-building the city.

Contrast that to New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani, who acted decisively when the towers fell. If he were still mayor today, would there still be a "hole in the ground"?

Was there anything we could have done to prevent 9/11? Probably not. No matter how great our intelligence

was, Al-Qaeda was determined to destroy us (though they failed).

Should the communication have been better between federal agencies in both disasters? Absolutely! This is 21st century America, but our infrastructure is still 20th century.

"If we knew then what we know now..." It's always easy to see what we should have done in retrospect. We should learn from our mistakes and do whatever we can to prevent it from happening again.

I lived in New York City until April 2001. I used to take the train from New Jersey to the World Trade Center for my job near Wall Street. It's sad that on this fifth anniversary, there's still a "hole in the ground."

It's also sad that New Orleans is still a disaster area a year later. I'm sure the coverage we see on TV doesn't do justice to the true horrific nature of the damage and suffering.

We should expect the government to help us in times of crisis. But instead of always expecting the government to save us; let's stop playing the political blame game and start re-building ourselves.

News

CAMPUS EYE

Thursday, Sept. 14
Inter Club Council Meeting
Campus Center 104
1 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 15
Valley Collegiate Players
Hollywood Afterparty
Theatre Building on the
Mainstage
7 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 17
Faculty Recital
Christian Nova, baritone
Music Building
Recital Hall
3 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 20
Club Day/Constitution Day
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Throughout Semester
Associated Student Union
Book Exchange
Campus Center Halls

THINK TRANSFER

FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT THE CAREER
TRANSFER CENTER AT
(818) 947-2646

Tuesday, Sept. 19
UCLA Peer Mentor
1 to 3 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 20
UCLA Representative
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

UCLA Financial Aid
Representative
1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

All Think Transfer events
are held in the Career/
Transfer Center in the
Administration Building,
room 126 unless other-
wise indicated.

ASU Prepares for School Year

By WILL REYES
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The 2006-2007 Valley College Associated Student Union has marked the beginning of the fall semester with a series of events and projects aimed at helping new and continuing students make the most of their time at Valley.

As Valley's student government, the ASU is made up of student commissioners who are publicly elected by their fellow students and work to represent their voice. As part of Valley's Welcome Week, the ASU organized a performance by a rock band on August 29 and also made themselves available to new students looking for assistance.

"We were out all day helping students to find directions for their classes and answer questions," said ASU President Narine Jugharyan. "I'm excited about the new semester ... full of energy and ready to do the work that needs to be done."

With many new students unfamiliar with college life, the ASU hopes to help them better adjust to the transition with events aimed at celebrating culture, helping students save money on books and promoting more student involvement.

The union currently has a raffle open to students who pay the optional ASU fee that will

give them a chance to win a number of free items.

"Students may pay the \$7 ASU fee until Sept. 15 and their name will be entered in a drawing to win one of our prizes," said Jugharyan. "We have a \$150 and \$75 Valley Bookstore book certificates and three Valley parking passes."

The raffle was created to encourage more students to pay the fee, which Jugharyan says would give the ASU more funds to better serve students through both organizing events and sponsoring departments dedicated to helping students.

The upcoming schedule of ASU-sponsored events is also full, with a Latino Heritage Celebration on Oct. 4 and Homecoming on Oct. 21, as well as weekly club days every Wednesday of the semester.

Another area for students to pass the time in between classes or do homework is the Lion's Den located inside the Cafeteria. The ASU-funded area has a big-screen TV, couches, more than 15 computers and a pool table and is a favorite of many Valley students.

"It's a really nice atmosphere in here," said broadcasting major Elizabeth Hensley, who works the desk at the den. "People come in all the time with smiles on their faces and it's very laid back."

'Tutoring'

continued from page 1

who are enrolled in the classes they tutor for, set up three sessions a week per class, with voluntary attendance.

"The atmosphere is a little more informal, which becomes more enticing for some students to get a little more involved," explained Director Jessica Mintz. "The more involved they are and the more active they are, the more they kind of get into the whole learning process."

With an added emphasis on study strategies, SI has been proven to provide higher success and retention rates for students. Letter grades typically increase from a grade to a half a grade, according to Mintz. The Schedule of Classes lists which courses are available with SI and session times and locations can be found at www.lavc.edu/SI/index.htm.

Other tutoring services the campus offers includes The Writing Center and the Math Lab. The Writing Center places emphasis on creating better writers through style and mechanics instruction. The Math Lab provides individualized, drop-in help from Basic Math to Differential Equations. Test preparation workshops are also available.

An Earth Science/Anthropology Lab also offers individual or group tutoring in Anthropology, Astronomy, Earth Science, Environmental Science, Geography/GIS, Geology and Oceanography. The Nursing tutoring services are available as part of the Nursing program and include clinical simulations, workshops and the ability to work closely with an experienced clinical instructor. All campus tutoring services are free with a student ID and current registration receipt.

Lab information:

The Writing Center - Humanities 100
Math Lab - Math Science 106
Earth Science/Anthro Lab - MS113
S.I. - www.lavc.edu/SI/index.htm
Gen. Tut. & Res. - Learning Center
DSPS - Campus Center 100
Nursing - (818) 947-2840

'Books'

continued from page 1

the Book Exchange program last semester and saved \$200.

Some students prefer to use the campus bookstore because online sites may take a long time to ship, but others, like business major Robert

Borenstein, get a head start by looking up the required texts for their classes on the bookstore's Website over summer and ordering them in time for the books to arrive before the semester starts.

"This semester I have saved more than \$100 on textbooks," said Borenstein.

'Services'

continued from page 1

for the health care [with their health fee]."

Student Stephanie Montes explained, "I'm here because I needed a medical examination for [work] and at my regular doctor I couldn't get an appointment for months."

Students can make an appointment by calling (818) 947-2918, although same day visits are available. To receive service students must bring a photo I.D. and a registration receipt to prove that they are currently enrolled.

The Student Health Center also houses Psychological services, which offers free counseling to help students deal with the pressures of everyday life.

Students can call (818) 778-5504 to make an appointment with a clinical psychologist to discuss issues such as family problems, personal or academic stress, anxiety or depression and substance abuse.

Eighteen academic counselors are available in the Campus Center to help students make sure they are taking the appropriate

classes to fulfill Valley's requirements. Students are encouraged to see a counselor twice a year to ensure they are not missing any classes.

"Counseling has brand new students and they have to be hand-held," said Selma Cohen, a receptionist in the Counseling Office. "Many students don't know what to take. They don't have a plan. All questions are answered in this department."

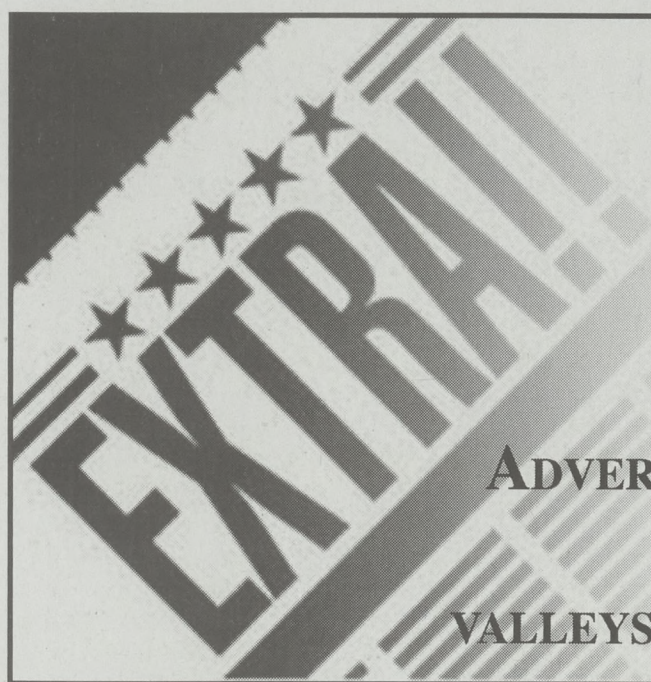
Counselors are available by appointment for 30-minute academic advising sessions or shorter drop-in sessions to assess more immediate needs.

Students can also go to the Career Transfer Center located in the Administration Building for help with transferring to four-year institutions, finding a job and other services.

"Basically, we help students transfer to four year institutions [and] determine what classes they need in order to transfer," explained Career Counselor Laurie Collier.

For those having trouble choosing a major, the Career Transfer Center also offers assessment tests to help students discover their interests.

Check out the Valley Star online at
www.lavalleystar.com
for more stories and photos!



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or

\$20 off
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- ☐ 1 Comforter or Quilt (Choose either poly or down filled.)
- ☐ 2 Duvet Covers (if you chose a down comforter.)
- ☐ 2 Blankets (it's always good to have an extra.)
- ☐ 2 Pillows
- ☐ 4 Pillow Protectors
- ☐ 1 Mattress Pad
- ☐ 1 Fiberbed/Featherbed
- ☐ 1 Inflatable Aero Bed
- ☐ 1 Accent Rug

Hit The Showers

- ☐ 6 Towel Sets
- ☐ 1 Shower Liner
- ☐ 1 Shower Ring Set
- ☐ 1 Electric Toothbrush
- ☐ 1 Over The Door Hook
- ☐ 1 Blow Dryer
- ☐ Shampoo & Conditioners
- ☐ 1 Curling Iron
- ☐ 1 Electric Razor
- ☐ 1 Robe and Slippers
- ☐ 1 Bath Rug
- ☐ 1 Shower Radio
- ☐ 1 Cosmetic Organizer
- ☐ 1 Cotton Swab/Ball Holder
- ☐ 1 Manicure Kit

Clean It

- ☐ 1 Tabletop Ironing Board
- ☐ 1 Hand or Stick Vacuum
- ☐ 1 Cylinder Hamper
- ☐ 1 Compact Iron
- ☐ 1 Drying Rack
- ☐ 2 Laundry Bags


Cram Time

- ☐ 1 Bulletin Board
- ☐ 1 Desk Lamp
- ☐ 1 Floor Lamp
- ☐ 1 Desk Organizer Set
- ☐ 1 Bed Rest
- ☐ 1 Lap Desk
- ☐ 1 Waste Basket
- ☐ 1 Paper Shredder
- ☐ 1 Dry Erase Board
- ☐ 2 Floor Pillows
- ☐ 1 Throw

Must Haves

- ☐ 1 Clock Radio
- ☐ 1 Telephone
- ☐ 1 Fan
- ☐ 2 Albums/Photo Storage Boxes
- ☐ 2 Extension Cords
- ☐ 2 Squid Multi-Outlet Plug Adapters
- ☐ 1 Door Mirror
- ☐ Batteries
- ☐ Wall Hooks
- ☐ Frames and Posters

LINENS-N-THINGS



LACCD e7 Student Interns Program

PAID STUDENT INTERNSHIPS

LACCD has launched a new program to create hundreds of new
Paid Internship Positions

To Be Eligible For An Intern Position, Students Must:

- Be enrolled at one of the nine LA Community College Campuses for a minimum of six (6) units
- Complete an internship application online at www.e7interns.org
- Submit a resume online
- Print and obtain a faculty referral/recommendation for an internship

Students enrolled at EAST L.A., HARBOR, LACC, LATTC, LAVC, MISSION, PIERCE, SOUTHWEST, and WEST L.A. COLLEGE (from all majors, certificate programs or continuing education classes) are eligible to apply.

DISCLAIMER: PLEASE NOTE THAT INTERN POSITIONS MAY BE FILLED AT ANY TIME.

For more information or application assistance please visit:
Michael Flores at the Cooperative Education Center
every THURSDAY from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm.


Or visit our website at:
www.e7interns.org
You may also call 310/448-8806 for more information

The e7 Interns Program is sponsored by PVJOBS is funded by Proposition A/AA in partnership with LACCD and DMJM/JGM.

Zach Braff Jacinda Barrett Casey Affleck Rachel Bilson with Blythe Danner and Tom Wilkinson

The Last Kiss

We all make choices.
What's yours?



From the writer of
"Million Dollar Baby"
and co-writer of "Crash"

DREAMWORKS PICTURES and LAKESHORE ENTERTAINMENT PRESENT
A LAKESHORE ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCTION A TONY GOLDWIN FILM
"THE LAST KISS" ZACH BRAFF JACINDA BARRETT CASEY AFFLECK
RACHEL BILSON MICHAEL WESTON ERIC CHRISTIAN OLSEN
MARLEY SHELTON HAROLD RAMIS WITH BLYTHE DANNER AND TOM WILKINSON
PRODUCERS GABRIELE MUCCINO ERIC REID TERRY A. MCKAY HARLEY TANNERBAUM
PRODUCERS ANDRE LAMAL MARCUS VISCIDI PRODUCED BY TOM ROSENBERG GARY LUCCHESI
BASED ON THE LUTINO BACIO WRITTEN BY GABRIELE MUCCINO SCREENPLAY BY PAUL HAGGIS
DIRECTED BY TONY GOLDWIN
LastKissMovie.com

September 15

CD REVIEW

No Need to Celebrate Beyoncé's "B'Day"

■ Diva's new album is set to sell on name recognition, not style.

"B'DAY"

Sony Urban Music/Columbia
★★ out of 5

By ELEARY NIXON
STAFF WRITER

Ring the alarm! The sexy, sweet, complicated songstress, Beyoncé, is back with her sophomore compilation, "B'Day!" "B'Day" is the follow-up album to Beyoncé's 2003 solo smash debut "Dangerously In Love," which sold more than 10 million albums worldwide and garnished a record tying five Grammys.

"B'Day," released appropriately on Beyoncé's birthday, Sept. 4, is expected to hit the number one spot on Billboard's Top 200, with a projected 600,000 units sold in the first few weeks, according to Billboard.com.

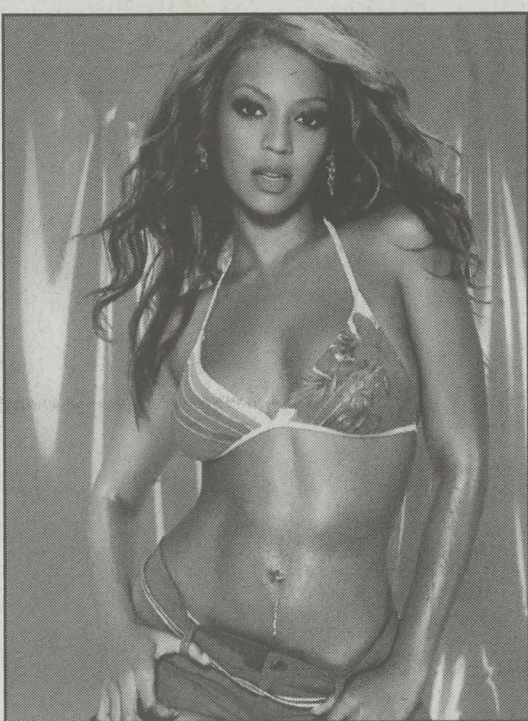
With clever beats from producers Swizz Beatz, Rodney "Darkchild" Jerkins, Rich Harrison, Cameron Wallace, Stargate, and the Neptunes, the now decade old heralded industry princess, Beyoncé, has released an album that falls short of the gold medal but will inevitably become a multi-platinum hit.

"B'Day," executive produced by Beyoncé and Matthew Knowles for Music World Production Inc., has limited song variety. The song "Get Me Bodied" is a catchy groove that gives you the feel of a humid, southern day, with sweat dripping off the brow at a backyard party, full of no inhibition and grinding bodies. The song leaves you wishing that you were invited to the party.

Then there is "Kitty Kat," which leaves no hidden meaning. Beyoncé,

using a Marilyn Monroe breathiness, sings the unashamed lyric of "Let's go, let's go Little Kitty Kat/I think it's time to go let's go Little Kitty Kat/He don't want no mo'...Quite frankly No mo' getting it I'm not feeling it."

With the song "Freakum Dress," female listeners are force-fed instructions to take out their "freakum dress" and get their man back--or possibly any



COURTESY OF SONY URBAN MUSIC/COLUMBIA

man for that matter.

Nonetheless, the anticipated club hit "Ring The Alarm" shows a narcotic side of Beyoncé, embellishing the character of a woman going fanatical for her man. A sound not so immediately associated with the Houston native.

Yet, her immeasurable vocal prowess

carries out the angry and seemingly female gone-wild song to an alarm-blowing end.

The album "B'Day" comes nowhere near the vocal range and magnitude that Beyoncé is so blessed with and has demonstrated in the past.

Moreover, Beyoncé provides something sweet for a man's desire with "Suga Mama." Beyoncé seemed to channel into her inner Foxy Cleopatra with "Suga Mama," and provides the listener with a 1970s throw-back sound with a Curtis Mayfield-like vibe.

Leaving only two recognizably women-empowering ballads like "Irreplaceable" and "Resentment," both of which showcase Beyoncé's well crafted runs, patented street lyrics and gospel sound.

The album "B'Day" comes nowhere near the vocal range and magnitude that Beyoncé is so blessed with and has demonstrated in the past.

Nonetheless, the name Beyoncé Knowles is synonymous with success. This should garnish this Diva countless more awards, multi-platinum status, Grammy nominations and place her among the ranks of her predecessors, Whitney Houston and Mariah Carey.

FIRST PERSON

Planetarium: A Night at the Oasis

By MARTIN RUIZ
STAFF WRITER

The Valley College Astronomy Group held its monthly planetarium show Friday night, in front of a full house of Valley students for the awesome visual experience.

Chemistry professor and Astronomy Group President John Milligan and Planetarium Director David Falk hosted the event.

Visitors sat back, relaxed in their chairs and looked at a simulation of the night sky projected onto the dome above. Falk began with a fascinating narrative description of the night sky, pointing out the constellations and planets.

Falk called the show "a planetarium experience that shows what it's like to be under the sky" and an "education presented in an interesting manner."

Friday's event was called "Oasis in Space," and was a presentation about how the search for life in outer space begins by looking for liquid water, which is a critical requirement for life. The show explored the atmospheric make up of various planets, including Pluto and their moons.

The video presentation was a colorful, seemingly 3-dimensional virtual tour through our solar system. This is definitely an experience you cannot get by reading a textbook.

The majority of the attendees were students looking for extra

credit for their astronomy classes. However, one couple brought their 8-year-old son because of his enthusiasm for astronomy.

Amateur astronomer Bob Gerard directed the telescope, which features a 16-inch lens, at the top of the planetarium prior to the show trying to catch a glimpse of Jupiter. There was still too much light in the sky, and the viewing was postponed until after the show. By that time, unfortunately, Jupiter had sunk beneath a tree.

Planetarium shows are one hour-long public events, beginning at 8 p.m. and highlighting various aspects of astronomy. It currently features the SciDome single projector full-dome video system, paid for by NASA. Anyone interested may attend.

The Astronomy Group also holds monthly "Star Parties," on Saturdays closest to the new moon. Attendees meet at Valley around sundown, then drive to a site outside the city where the night sky is darker and stars are more visible.

The next planetarium show, entitled "The Fall Sky," is Oct. 13. Admission, at half the price of a movie ticket, is a bargain: \$5 for adults; \$4 for seniors, group members and Valley students with paid ASO activity cards; and \$3 for kids, 8-16.

Membership in the Astronomy Group costs \$15 per year. For information on planetarium shows, star parties or monthly meetings and lectures, call (818) 947-2335.

SPORTS

FOOTBALL

Valley Loses Home Opener on New Turf



■ Mt. San Jacinto drops Valley to a 1-1 record.

By TONY SILVA
STAFF WRITER

The Valley College Monarchs lost its second game of the season Saturday, 35-14, to Mt. San Jacinto.

The home loss drops the Monarchs record to 1-1. Valley defeated Pasadena City College, 27-26, in its first game of the season.

The Monarchs are already halfway to the number of wins they compiled last season, when Valley finished with a 2-8 record.

The team hopes to even get a shot at the Western State Conference title for the first time in 10 years.

"The team is looking really good this year, Head Coach Jimmy Sims said. "We got a lot of new recruits coming in, and we are still counting on most of the players who performed well last year."

Sims said the football staff has done a great job of recruiting some of the top players that this city has to offer, and that the team has been working on a weight-training program.

One of those new recruits on the list happens to be starting Running Back Anthony Dickson, who was also one of the key players for Grant High School's football team last year.

"Playing Football at a college

level is great," Dickson said. "There is a lot more intensity to the game and it is also harder to keep your starting position because there are so many talented players this year."

Another key player on offense is sophomore Maurice John, who can see a marked difference from

The Monarchs lost its first game on its new multi-purpose field, made of Sprint Turf.

the team that went 2-8.

"We have improved on all aspects of the game compared to last year's team," Johns said. "Our special teams have improved, our offensive team is more aggressive, and our defensive line is doing a good job making sure that we keep the score on our side of the game."

The Monarchs will try and improve their record Saturday when the team faces Moorpark College at home, with kickoff scheduled for 7 p.m.

The Monarchs lost its first game on its new multi-purpose field, made of sprint turf.

The new football field made of a synthetic surface will be used by the soccer and football teams. The field, along with the 10-land Mondo track, were completed as part the Propositions A/AA projects.

LAVC SCHEDULE

Wednesday 9/13/06
No Scheduled Games

Thursday 9/14/06
Women's Soccer @ Mission 4 p.m.

Friday 9/15/06
Women's Soccer @ Allan Hancock 4 p.m.
Men's Water Polo Tournament @ Mt. SAC
TBA

Saturday 9/16/06
Football @ Moorpark 7 p.m.
Men's Water Polo Tournament @ Mt. SAC
TBA
Women's Water Polo Mini Tourney @ El Camino TBA
L.A. Trade Tech Cross Country
Invitational @ Pierce 9 a.m.

Sunday 9/17/06
No Scheduled Games

Monday 9/18/06
No Scheduled Games

Tuesday 9/19/06
Women's Soccer @ Moorpark 4 p.m.



For more sport photos
and stories, please
visit
www.lavalleystar.com

EVADING THE ENEMY - Valley quarterback, Alex Ritthamel, scrambles from a Mt. San Jacinto Eagles' defender Saturday, the Eagles defeated the Monarchs 35-14 in first home game of the season.

ALEX FAYVIL / VALLEY STAR